

Well everybody's heard about the bird, Bird bird bird, bird is the word
Don't you know about the bird? Well everybody knows that the bird is a word

B * I * C H * I * T * S O * F M * I * D * - * A * M * E * R * I * C * A (V O L U M E 3)
number forty-nine march 4, 1985
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next deadline: friday, march 29, 1985 (phone 9pmCST 3/28) Next zine: may 9, 1985

standby list: top: Dodge, Wall

next: Bishop, K Brown, Ellis, Gautron, Iverson, Johneton, Mark Keller, Reges, Russell, Stafford, Tighe

game openings: 2w deadlines: Bishop, Sherwood, Bakken, Masche (\$10 new subbers/\$6 old)

lw deadlines: Wall (\$6.50 new subbers/\$3.50 for old) (Wall has paid)

sub balance changes: Bakko .00 plus \$4.00 less gamesfee \$3.50: .50
Wall 1.60 plus 1.50: \$3.10

anything else: no...no, wait: Ed Wrobel, 3932 North Forestdale Ave, Dale City VA 22193

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This will be the last issue of this zine before our trip to Germany. Number fifty will appear in mid-May. The next season of the four regular games will be on postcards only with no press or extras. We'll be gone 3/31 to 5/9.

With my usual good timing this deadline was set the day of the blizzard. No mail was delivered on March 4, and of course I waited until the next day to do the games.

REACTION TO "THE ORPHAN SERVICE CONTROVERSEY"

This piece was supposed to be a parody of the recent flap about the Runestone Poll. It was taken almost word for word from a letter from Randolph Smyth printed in Europa Express. Those of you who weren't paying attention to that mess probably were quite confused by my article; after all I didn't make it clear that the very person complaining was the new orphan director. I didn't get any reaction from Keith, but I did get some others.

Craig Reges: "What's the big deal with people anyway?" ((Precisely the point I was trying to make. I completely agree.))

James Wall: "Just so you know I think your choice of Sherwood is scandalous. He lives west of the Mississippi!"

Kevin Tighe: "Can't you and Keith take your differences to an ombudsman, say Frauke, and let her decide the issue? She can compare lists and personality traits to decide who is the most desirable."

Ed Wrobel: "There is no doubt among those of us here in Dipdom's mainstream who have the straight dope on one K Sherwood that your appointment of this maniac as Orphan Director will not only result in a flood of low quality babies on the black market but may well destroy the hobby by poisoning the seed corn who would become the next generation of Diplomacists...So, Hanson and Sherwood, you can have your orphan service, you will not be getting my son, Eric, that's for sure."

Please don't forget MINN-CON, which will be Memorial Day Weekend here at our house. I'm enclosing some directions for those of you I think might be interested; since it will be two months before I put out another issue, we'll need some help getting information out. Five people have told me they'll probably come, so we'll have at least enough for a full board with the two of us.

The latest round of feuding in the hobby seems to have subsided. But a lot of bitterness remains. Several pubbers I know are thinking of folding, just because they're sick and tired of it all. Now, people have been feuding in this hobby ever since it began, and it's not going to stop. But it's just a few people who are behind most of it. This hobby is large enough that these few people are easy to avoid. You don't need to quit the hobby to avoid avoid the bad feelings that come from feuds. You can pick and choose your friends. People can also save themselves a lot of grief by not taking a stand in feuds, no matter how rotten somebody seems to be. These people who are constantly feuding are like spoiled children; by coming out against one of them you're just giving them the attention they want. The hobby is not some social club where we can kick out people we don't like. You have no choice but to put up with the assholes in the hobby...but you don't have to associate with them. Let the feuders have their own hobby...we can play Dip.

I had hoped to be able to be at Paul Rauterberg's St. Pat's party, but my thesis isn't written yet and I have to pay the price. For anyone that's interested, I'm comparing farm price policies in Egypt, South Korea, and Argentina. OK, I can hear all those yawns...

How about more yawns? Well, some of you may be interested that I'm planning to make this zine a bit more talkative. No, it's not going to be like the old IRKSOME! Rather, I'm going to open up a letter column, and the subject will be international affairs. Real life Diplomacy, be it current or past. I'm sure there's a diversity of views among you all (especially if I get my European players from Bahnhof Zoo involved), and many of my thoughts are, well, unique. (I'm too humble to call them brilliant.) I'm planning on xeroxing the zine from now on, and your letter will have a better chance of being printed if it is typed and camera ready. Better yet, type it on the long side of a letter-sized sheet with $\frac{1}{2}$ " margins. Unless someone comes up with a topic, I'll ask whether the US should covertly or overtly support or fight against regimes in smaller countries. (The cases of Nicaragua and El Salvador come to mind.)

If you don't write in, I'll just have to bore you with all the details of our trip to Germany

Here's a subject that may interest some of you: beer. Spring means bock season for beer drinkers, and many smaller American breweries offer this stronger, darker brew. Here in the Midwest we're lucky to have a few of these bock beers. The best is Leinenkugel's from Chippewa Falls WI, but Huber from Wisconsin and Schell's from New Ulm MN also offer a bock. For those of you who come to MinnCon, you'll have the chance to visit Surdyk's which imports some Doppelbocks from Germany. Doppelbock is not for the faint of heart! (Nor weak of wallet!) Frauke and I tried making a bock of our own; I tried the first bottle tonight and it's not too bad. (We're taking that batch to Germany with us.) Anyway, I hope you can find a bock this spring and you'll think of us as you drink it. And let us know if you like it.

Hah! You're lucky again. Once again this zine was typed during the Minnesota High School Hockey Tournament. The winner was Burnsville, who beat Hill-Murray in the last 30 seconds of the championship game. This weekend are the finals of the WCHA, as Minnesota meets UM-Duluth for the championship of the toughest conference in college hockey. We whupped the cheeseheads from Wisconsin last weekend, but UMD is favored in the finals. So what's this sport Georgetown is supposed to be so good in?

Scott & Wrobel's - Krv-name

AUSTRIA(Chen) A VIE-gal; A bud-SER; F tri-ALB. ITALY(Masche) F nap-ION; A rom-VEN; A ven-TYO.
 ENGLAND(Laeter) A lvp-YOR; F edi-NWG; F lon-NTH. RUSSIA(Anderson) F stp/sc-BOT; A mos-UKR; A WAR-gal; F SEV-bla.
 FRANCE(Mallia) F bre-MID; A par-BUR; A mar-SPA. TURKEY(Brown) A con-BUL; A smy-ARM; F ANK-bla.
 GERMANY(Bakken) F kie-DEN; A mun-RUH; A ber-KIE.

FALL 1901 is due MARCH 29, 1985. Final location of unite are in CAPS, failed movees are not underlined. Simple 'nuff? press

BERLIN: The German government wishes to promote peace and harmony with all its neighbors end to the rest of the world.
 BELGIUM-WORLD: Our small nation humbly requests the presence of English troops to protect our people and leaders from the horrors of war. We hope that France, Germany, and the rest of the world comply with our request.

GERMANY-WORLD: For all those who asked, I think Mike Masche and I have met once. And as long as he's not in Tyrolie, we are friends. If he is in Tyro, well...I know where he lives and I'll be waiting at his door with a 2x4 about right now.

ENGLAND-BELGIUM: His Majesty grants Belgium's request and asks France and Germany to comply, calling the entire diplomatic community as a witness.

BAKKO-GM: Hey--that crayon bit was a nice touch. Doesn't Frauke let you play with sharp objects yet?

LONDON-WORLD: The people of the British Isles are horrified at the hostile and warlike steps presently being taken by European powers. His Majesty offers himself and members of his diplomatic corps as possible mediators to avoid outright conflict. Until then, the British Navy has been mobilized and sent to critical defensive positions around the Isle. Although Parliament and the King have gone on record with their hopes that this impasse will be short lived, the British government refuses to return its forces to peaceful status until it is made certain that the English people are safe.

MUN-LON: Madlad? Me--a Madlad? Suh; I believe someone has been telling you scandalous lies about me. Mistuh Hanson here will vouch for mah integrity as a honest and forthright citizen! ((Hell, he's more than forthright. He's right at least a third of the time...))

84HS TWIST & SHOUT FALL 1902 PLAYERS SHOUT AS GM TWISTS RESULTS

((The initial adjudication was utterly worthless. Please note the corrections, and I will grant a sparetime next time upon two requests.))

retreats: AUS A eer r TRI; ENG F nwy r SKA.

AUSTRIA(Masche) A tri-ser(d,ann); A BUD # A tri-sar; A VIE S A bud; F ALB # F ???-gre(amb).

ENGLAND(Johnston) F ske-SWE; A LON-wal; F LVP-wal; F NTH-eng.

FRANCE(Blochar) F iri-MID; A BEL H(S A PIC & # F ENG); A SPA H.

GERMANY(Bishop) F DEN S eng F eke-swe; A RUH-bel(S A HOL); A bur-PAR.

ITALY(Ellie) F ion-ADR; F nap-APU; A ven-TRI(S A TYO).

RUSSIA(Tighe) F Nwy # ger F den-nth(NSO); A STP S F nwy; A RUM-bud(S A GAL & # A SER); A SEV-run(S F BLA).

TURKEY(Holley) F aeg-GRE(S A BUL); F oon-AEG; A SMY H.

1902 SUPPLY CENTERS

A vie W E S E BUD	2 rem 1*	I home tun TRI	5 bld 1	WINTER 1902/SPRING 1903 are due MARCH 29,
E home W E SWE	4 even	R home rum W E S E Nwy SER	7 even	1985.
F W E S E mar bre por bel SPA	5 even	T home bul GRE	5 bld 1	
G home den HOL PAR	6 bld 2	n W E S E (*had 1 ann)		

press

RUSSIA-BOARD: Everybody snap your fingers (snap, snap, snap, snap...yeah...snap, snap). The beat goes on and I'm all wrong. The beat goes on and I'm all wrong. The beat goes on and I'm all wrong. (snap snap) I'm e dancing fo-ooo-oo. I'm e dancing fo-ooo-oo.

RUSSIA-AUSTRIA: It will be easier to go through you than around you, I hope.

STP-ROME: What else can you do? Dozens of things! You can harass France, or skip into Munich, or bottle into Trieste, or convoy into Syria. You can stand on your head and make phone calls to Jane Fonda. For the price of a gamefies you can go to a nightclub, take the bus to Topeka, see a ball game, or feed the entire country of Ethiopia for a week.

83HL EXPRESSO LOVE SPRING 1906 EAT YOUR COFFEE WITH A FORK

ENGLAND(Masche) F lon-ENG.

FRANCE(Tallman) F NTH-edi(S F YOR); F BEL-nth(S F HOL); A RUH S F hol; A BUR S A ruh; F lvp-CLY; F WES cite n knits.

GERMANY(Ellie) A ber-mun(d,ann); A KIE # A ber-mun; A MUN-tyo.

RUSSIA(Msinel) F EDI # eng F lon-yor(NSO); F NWG S F edi; F HEL-nth(S F SKA); F stp/no-Nwy; A DEN-kis; A war-SIL;

A eil-BER(S A PRU); A BOH-mun; A GAL-boh; A TRI-tyo; A ven-PIE.

TURKEY(Givan) F ion-TYS(S F TUN); A rom-NAP; F nap-ION; F ank-CON; F emy-EAS; A GRE H.

FALL 1907 is due MARCH 29, 1985. Drewe proposed: RF & TR. Not voting is no.

press.

FRA-GER, ENG & TUR: Direction, give me direction!!!

83AV BAD BRAIN MENSA XVIII SPRING 1910 MOVING LIKE THE BOARD IS TILTED

winter: FRA A tyo r PIE, bld F MAR; RUS F con r OTB, A tri r SER, bld A WAR; TUR bld F SMY.

FRANCE(K Brown) F mar-LYO; F tys-WES; F mid-NAF; A PIE-tyo; A kie # A ruh(d...); A RUH S A kie; A BUR S A ruh;
 F NWG-nwy(S F SKA); F nth-HEL; F eng-NTH.

GERMANY(Regees) F DEN S rus A ber-kie.

ITALY(Micheel K) A TRI H(S F ADR & F VEN); F NAP # fre F tyo-ion(NSO).

RUSSIA(R Brown) F stp/no-Nwy(S A FIN & F BAR & A SWE); A ber-KIE(S A MUN); A pru-BER; A SIL S & A TYO # A mun;

A war-GAL; A VIE S A tyo; A SER H.

TURKEY(Mark K) F ion-TYS(S F TUN); F gre-ION; F bul/so-GRE; F smy-AEG; A CON H.

FALL 1910 is due MARCH 29, 1985. All drewe failed: FRT 2-2, FRT 1-3, RT 2-2 (1 mvr). Proposed for next time is FR; not voting is no. There is no press.